



ROBERT FRANCO

Imagining Socialismo Sin Sexismo: Visualizing Gender, Erasing Sexuality, and Constructing Militancy in the Mexican Communist Party

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017 @ 12:00
ZIMMERMAN LIBRARY, WATERS ROOM**

Issues of the sex and sexuality have been in an uneasy, if not antagonistic, relationship with the revolutionary politics of the Mexican Communist Party (PCM) and other parties of the Marxist and nationalist left since their foundation. In this talk, Robert Franco (Duke University, History) interrogates how this antagonism was related to the intimate politics and practices in the Mexican Left. He argues that the surveillance and policing of sexuality by Mexican Communists were constitutive of a broader set of debates within the PCM about the relation of militancy to private life, morality, and behavior.

Robert Franco is a PhD student in History at Duke University whose work is concerned with the politics of gender, sexuality, and the family in Latin@ America. His dissertation project, titled "Revolution in the Sheets: The Sexual Politics & Intimate Practices of the Mexican Left, 1901-1981," examines the antagonism of the Mexican Left towards sexual politics.



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